



PENTECOST REFLECTIONS

It's just too much! Every mail brings another appeal. Some are frivolous, but most of them arise out of genuine need. Minorities, elderly, Vietnam orphans and refugees, church-related and private charities, health care and research, overseas mission projects, financially depressed colleges, organizations seeking justice for farm laborers and amnesty for war-resisters, peace groups, not to mention veterans organizations, local advocacy groups and political parties --- all these and more have sent requests for help to my desk within recent weeks.

The point of these comments is not to give advice about the selection process in this maze of appeals, but to express appreciation that the turmoil and tragedy of life have not so depressed the human spirit that no more appeals are voiced. Every request that is honestly made --- and most of them are -- says that someone has not given up on a troublesome situation. The fact is that many of the appeals have their origin with church-related folk motivated directly or indirectly by their Christian heritage. As long as there is a cry for help, there is a stimulus for the humanization of society.

What can one expect in this post-Pentecost season? The Holy Spirit permits no complacency or false contentment. The church was born to proclaim a restored community and practice a fellowship that excludes none of God's children. No amount of rationalization may narrow the horizons of our concern. Thank God for the reminders from the deprived and depressed.

But how to respond with openness? Obviously choices must be made. A tithe is not too much, especially in our time when a new surge of caring is required to assuage the wounds of a ravaged globe. But more than gifts or goods are required. Does not Pentecost include the promise of a creative spirit? Is the church ready to lay hold of a new vision for this shrinking globe? Can Christian people be so captured by hope that they will not be defeated by the outmoded traditions and patterns of yesteryear or the injustices of today?

I need to be reminded. And the church still provides me with the best channels for response.

R. H. Huenemann

STEWARDSHIP WORKSHOPS - In response to frequent requests, the Finance Department of the Conference is arranging a series of Workshops for persons who deal with stewardship and financial support in the local church. Five evening sessions (7:30 to 9:30) have been scheduled.

Sunday, June 15

Monday, June 16

Tuesday, June 17

Wednesday, June 18

Thursday, June 19

- Hillsboro

- Trinity, Portland

- Idaho

- White Salmon, Wash.

- Albany

HISTORIC CHURCHES - POCATELLO, IDAHO



First Congregational Church of Pocatello, Idaho, stands at the very edge of the business district of this expanding community of 50,000. Built of native pink sandstone, its beautiful architecture and adequate size speak eloquently of those dedicated persons who have worked and worshipped there for seven decades, serving God and man, and loving their church.

This was the first Congregational Church to be organized in Idaho--in 1888. Its first building, erected the following year, is described as "out all alone in the sage-brush." But 15 years later, the town had grown up around it and the little frame church was inundated by business firms and stores. Over the objections of many people, lots were purchased 5 blocks away; many people objected that the site was too far out. Erected in 1904, the new building was the first unit of what today is First Congregational Church. Its thick stone walls and beautiful stained glass windows, even the miniature flying buttresses, are reminiscent of the great cathedrals of Europe. The interior of the sanctuary, with its high vaulted ceiling, huge exposed beams, and great pipe organ, is in keeping with the Gothic tradition.

An addition, which more than doubled the facilities, was begun in 1928 under the leadership of the Rev. George Sloan, and completed during the pastorate of the Rev. Frank Carlson. By this time, the First Congregational Church had become an important and potent influence in the growing community.

And the church continued to grow. Women's groups, men's groups, young marrieds and single, youth and Sunday School groups vied for meeting places and rooms in the building. In 1954, it was decided to again enlarge the facilities. Under the capable leadership of the Rev. Frank Blish, the church was enlarged to its present status, housing a large Narthex, big Sunday School rooms, a full-sized gymnasium, a small chapel, pastor's study, church office and kitchen. Built of harmonizing sandstone, the completed plant is architecturally pleasing, conveniently located, and adequately designed to serve the spiritual and social needs of the members and friends for many generations.

Membership of the congregation has fluctuated with the national trends, reflecting the changes in social structure, values and interests. The congregation has been most fortunate in having had outstanding pastors - capable, dedicated and scholarly - a never-failing source of inspiration, leadership and comfort, giving a firm foundation in an uncertain world. Our present minister, the Rev. Armin Munz, has been a very special blessing to our congregation. Endowed with a rare gift for spreading love and friendship, he has brought to our church a special feeling of warmth and caring. We are proud of our place in the community and our bit in helping with that larger Christian fellowship in the community of nations.

Prepared by Frances Murray.

REMEMBERED WITH AFFECTION

The support and encouragement of our faith is extended to Dr. and Mrs. John Whiteneck who survive the recent death of their son, John, and to Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Gyorgy who lost their son, Frederick, late in April.

The members of the family of Rev. Henry Robinson and the congregation at home are mourning his sudden death on May 14 in a Pendleton hospital as a result of surgery complications. He and his wife had come to home from North Carolina to serve the church as interim pastor.

HONOR GRADUATES ACCEPTED "IN CARE"

Elise Carter and Christine Feno are among the Honors Program graduates at Pacific University. On the day before their graduation on May 18th, they were given "In Care" standing by the Church and Ministry Department of the Central Pacific Conference. In September they will begin their graduate studies in preparation for the Christian Ministry in the theological seminaries of their choice.

During the past year, these young women have been providing active leadership to the youth and educational programs of the Hillsboro Church, where they hold membership. Hearty good wishes as they prepare for professional service in the United Church.

RUTH EXTENDS APPRECIATION

Dear Friends in the Central Pacific Conference:

Those of you who attended the Saturday evening session of the Conference Annual Assembly in Medford know that a mysterious-looking square box was presented to me which I was too flustered (and too time-conscious) to open at that moment. Let me now tell you what was in it -- a beautiful, hand-crafted glass bowl from Iittala of Finland. It is designed and crafted to catch and reflect light and is a sturdy and useful piece as well. I love it, have it proudly on display on my window ledge, and thank the Conference very much for giving it to me (especially Dene Bish for picking it out).

All of the expression of affection, appreciation and best wishes, both official and personal, have been heart-warming to Charlie and me. Bless you all and thank you.

Ruth Bailey Hayward



Missionary doctor examines patient at Chikore.

WELCOME, WHITE SALMON

Bethel Church of White Salmon was officially received into the membership of Central Pacific Conference at the Annual Assembly in Medford by transfer from the Washington-North Idaho Conference. The active congregation of approximately 100 members is presently developing plans for a senior citizens' housing facility to be named "Beth-El Shalom" --- freely translated "God's House of Peace".

The congregation was organized on May 7, 1879, when nine people gathered to become charter members.

Since 1973, the Rev. Fred Haag has been the minister. At the Spring Assembly, he was elected Secretary of the Central Pacific Conference. A native of Ohio and a graduate of Ashland (Ohio) College and Eden Theological Seminary, Mr. Haag has served churches in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Chicago, Illinois; Walla Walla and Spokane, Washington. He has been an active officer in church councils, including the Church Federation of Greater Chicago. He and his wife, Ina, have a married daughter, who is City Treasurer at Lewiston, Idaho.



Rev. Fred Haag
Conference Secretary

ROBERT McAFFEE BROWN TO TEACH AT PSR

Dr. Robert McAfee Brown, Prof. of Religious Studies at Stanford University, has accepted an appointment as Professor of Theology and Ethics at Pacific School of Religion. Dr. Davie Napier, President, stated that Dr. Brown will begin his teaching at PSR on a half-time basis in the Fall, dividing his time between the Seminary and Stanford University.

Dr. Brown's coming to PSR for 1975-76 has been made possible by a special gift.

The Local Scene

The Rev. Don Gall, associate pastor at Eugene, has accepted a staff position with the Florida Conference, UCC.

Several Conference churches are installing new pastors at this time. Rev. David Madsen was installed as associate minister at First Church, Portland, on May 18. June installations are planned for Rev. Edsel Goldson at St. Andrew's, Portland, on the 1st, and Rev. John Chatalis at Astoria on the 8th. The latter service will be held at the Clatsop Plains Presbyterian Church and will be a joint installation.

Rev. William Graham, formerly at Vancouver, Washington, has accepted a call to serve the congregation at Lone. He will begin his ministry this month.

Hillsdale Church, Portland, has selected Rev. Michael A. Hanback as associate minister. A recent graduate of Bangor (Maine) Theological Seminary, he will arrive with his family late in June.

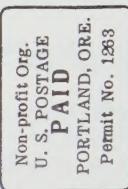
Nancy Johnson is the new intern at Second Church, Portland. A native of Wisconsin and a graduate of Lawrence College, she will assume her duties here on September 1. She is a second-year student at Andover-Newton Seminary. Mr. John Indermark, the current intern, will resume his studies at Eden Seminary, St. Louis, this Fall.

The "Assist" Cluster of seven churches south of Portland is planning joint Summer events, including a Camp Adams picnic on July 20, and an evening vesper at Beavercreek on August 24.

Mountain Home, Idaho, reports the reception of 14 new members during the Easter Season.

The Lake Oswego Church is raising funds to purchase a new organ, thus completing the refurbishing after the major fire nearly two years ago.

New pews at Parkrose is the objective of a fund drive approaching successful completion.



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Pacific School of Religion
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Remember

June 15-19
STEWARSHIP WORKSHOPS

August 2
EXECUTIVE BOARD MTG.

August 4-8
INTERNATIONAL MISSION
CONFERENCE at Willamette
University, Salem.

Register Now For
Summer Camp Program

NEWS

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